

## Senate Resolution 154

By: Senators Beach of the 21st, Mullis of the 53rd, Shafer of the 48th, Cowser of the 46th, Hill of the 4th and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending John Andrew Smoltz for his contributions to the State of Georgia and  
2 recognizing his outstanding achievements in the sport of baseball; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, John Andrew Smoltz, born May 15, 1967, and nicknamed "Smoltzie," is an  
4 American former baseball pitcher and active sportscaster who played 21 seasons in Major  
5 League Baseball (MLB), garnered eight All-Star selections and the National League Cy  
6 Young Award in 1996, and elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 2015, his first year of  
7 eligibility; and

8 WHEREAS, he is the only pitcher in major league history to top both 200 wins and 150  
9 saves; in 2008, he became the 16th member of the 3,000 strikeout club; and

10 WHEREAS, John Smoltz was an All-State baseball and basketball player at Waverly High  
11 School in Lansing, Michigan, before the Detroit Tigers drafted him, and on August 12, 1987,  
12 he was traded to the Atlanta Braves; and

13 WHEREAS, in the 1996 season, he went 24-8 with a 2.94 ERA and 276 strikeouts, including  
14 winning a franchise record 14 straight decisions, won the National League Cy Young with  
15 26 of the 28 first-place votes, and was awarded a Silver Slugger Award for his batting; and

16 WHEREAS, his career accomplishments include being elected to the National Baseball Hall  
17 of Fame on 82.9 percent of the vote in January, 2015, being named an eight-time All-Star  
18 and the National League Championship Series MVP in 1992, holding the Atlanta Braves  
19 record for most wins in a season, leading the Major Leagues in strikeouts in 1996 with 276,  
20 leading the national league in win percentage in 1996, winning the National League Rolaids  
21 Relief Man of the Year Award in 2002, holding the Braves record for most saves in a season  
22 in 2002 with 55, holding the Braves record for most strikeouts in a career with 3,011,  
23 receiving the Branch Rickey Award for exceptional community service in 2007, being the

24 only MLB pitcher with more than one post-season stolen base, and incurring 15 post-season  
25 wins; and

26 WHEREAS, on May 16, 2009, Smoltz married the former Kathryn Darden at his home with  
27 70 friends and family in attendance; and

28 WHEREAS, Smoltz is a born-again Christian, founded and has served as Chairman of the  
29 Board at Alpharetta-based King's Ridge Christian School, and is a member of the  
30 Presbyterian Church in America.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
32 commend John Andrew Smoltz for his contributions to the State of Georgia and recognizing  
33 his outstanding achievements in the sport of baseball.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
35 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to John Andrew  
36 Smoltz.